



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NATIONAL VEHICLE AND FUEL EMISSIONS LABORATORY
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OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

July 7, 2000

CCD-00-08 (LDV/LDT/SM/ICI/LIMO)

Dear Manufacturer:

SUBJECT: Fuel Economy Label Information for 2001 Model Year

Enclosed with this letter are the following documents designed to guide you in your 2001 model year fuel economy program.

Enclosure 1 - "Fuel Economy Supplementary Information for 2001 Model Year" contains the fuel cost, Gas Guzzler Tax schedule, and fuel economy range information necessary to print the fuel economy labels. Enclosure 1 also contains information about including the DOE/EPA Fuel Economy Guide web site address on the border of the fuel economy labels.

Enclosure 2 - provides instructions for submitting information to EPA for the Guide for alternative-fueled vehicles, electric vehicles, minivans, and sport utility vehicles.

Enclosure 3 - "Timetable" contains the timetable for inclusions of label values in the 2001 model year Fuel Economy Guide.

This letter establishes official 2001 model year fuel costs which are different than the interim values used by some manufacturers. [Interim fuel costs are used when 2001 vehicles are offered for sale before the 2001 fuel costs are available.] Manufacturers may continue using interim values (i.e. 2000 values) on currently approved labels until September 2, 2000. Manufacturers may update their currently approved labels sooner. All labels approved after August 1, 2000, should use the new fuel costs.

If you have any questions, please contact your certification team representative.

Sincerely,

Gregory A. Green, Director
Certification and Compliance Division
Office of Transportation and Air Quality

Enclosures

cc: D. Rodgers, DOE

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ENCLOSURE 1

Fuel Economy Supplementary Information for 2001 Model Year

Annual Fuel Cost

Annual fuel cost estimates are based on 15,000 annual vehicle miles and the following fuel costs:

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Regular Unleaded Gasoline | \$1.35 per gallon |
| Premium Unleaded Gasoline | \$1.55 per gallon |
| Diesel Fuel | \$1.30 per gallon |
| M85 | \$0.95 per gallon |
| E85 | \$1.60 per gallon |
| LPG | \$1.20 per gallon |
| CNG | \$0.85 per gallon equivalent |

The fuel cost will be calculated using the adjusted combined mpg (the .55/.45 weighting of the adjusted city and highway FE's, then rounded to a whole mpg).

Fuel Economy Ranges

The publication of the initial ranges as required by 40 CFR 600.314-86(d), will occur at the same time the Guide is released for publication. These ranges shall be applied to all vehicles manufactured more than 15 days after the ranges are available [Ref.: 40 CFR 600.306-86(b)].

Pursuant to 40 CFR 600.314-86(d), we will publish an updated version of all the ranges in February, 2001. This corresponds to the historical date of the second edition of the Guide. All vehicles must be labeled with the updated ranges within 15 days.

Labels issued after release of the initial or updated ranges should include the latest available range of fuel economy for that class of vehicle. After the ranges are initially available, the computer issued receipt will contain the ranges. The receipt will be automatically generated for manufacturers electronically transmitting FE data; other manufacturers can obtain this receipt from your certification team representative after the FE data has been entered. Separate ranges of adjusted city and highway FE values will be given.

Release Date

EPA will consider manufacturer-calculated label values as confidential until the release date specified by the manufacturer. The release date should be the date of introduction or press release or inclusion in the fuel economy Guide, whichever is earlier.

Printed Fuel Economy Guide - 1st Edition

It is EPA's intention to include in the printed Guide all manufacturers' label values according to the schedule contained in Enclosure 3. If the manufacturer wishes to exclude a model type from the Guide, a request providing justification for the exclusion must be submitted to EPA. Printed Guides will be mailed to Automobile dealerships in October or early November.

Printed Fuel Economy Guide - 2nd Edition

EPA and DOE do not intend to publish a printed copy of the second edition of the Guide in February, as has been done in the past. Instead, we intend to update the web site several times during the year.

EPA Press Release

Each year, EPA releases the Fuel Economy Guide to the press around the time new models are first offered for sale. Our press release typically occurs in the last part of September or early October, and typically includes all the information in the printed Guide, plus some general information about some of the highest and lowest fuel economy cars and trucks.

EPA/DOE Fuel Economy Web Site (www.fueleconomy.gov.)

The EPA and the Department of Energy (DOE) have developed a combined fuel economy web site, www.fueleconomy.gov. The web site contains all the information in the printed Guide, plus tips and other general information about the fuel economy of passenger cars and light trucks. After the EPA press release, EPA will place a copy of the updated Guide information on the web site. The site will be updated periodically throughout the year.

EPA encourages automobile manufacturers (and dealers) to hyperlink their web sites to the EPA/DOE site, as a public reference for fuel economy of passenger cars and light-duty trucks.

Displaying Web Site Address on FE Labels (Window Stickers)

As manufacturers are aware, the provisions of 40 CFR 600.307-95(a)(2)(iv) require the following language in the border of current fuel economy labels:

"The phrase "Compare this [vehicle/truck] to others in the FREE FUEL ECONOMY GUIDE available at the dealer," SHALL BE "dropped-out" of

the top border as depicted in the sample label format in appendix VIII of this part. The phrase shall be in lower case in a medium condensed type except for the words "FREE FUEL ECONOMY GUIDE" which shall be capitalized in a bold condensed type and no smaller than 12 points in size."

EPA requests that manufacturers also include the EPA/DOE web site address (www.fueleconomy.gov) in a highly visible place on the label, preferably on the border of the label, in lower case letters which are in the same bold condensed type as the words "FREE FUEL ECONOMY GUIDE." If it is not possible to make this change to all 2001 labels, we request that manufacturers make the change at the next available printing.

Gas Guzzler Tax

If, according to your calculations, one or more of your model types are subject to the Gas Guzzler Tax, those model types are noted by the letter "G" in the engine description section of the Fuel Economy Guide.

The total amount of tax is determined by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The manufacturer is responsible to the IRS for reporting and paying the Gas Guzzler Tax. The tax shown in the table below must be used on the label unless the manufacturer has been granted an alternative tax rate schedule. However, the IRS may audit your records and make their own determination about your tax liability. If the IRS determines a different tax rate after the model year, you will not be required to relabel unsold vehicles.

Use the following table to determine the tax liability for "Guzzler" model types.

FUEL ECONOMY VALUE TAX

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------|---------|
| <u>MPG*</u> is at least: | 21.5 but | < 22.5 | \$1,000 |
| | 20.5 but | < 21.5 | 1,300 |
| | 19.5 but | < 20.5 | 1,700 |
| | 18.5 but | < 19.5 | 2,100 |
| | 17.5 but | < 18.5 | 2,600 |
| | 16.5 but | < 17.5 | 3,000 |
| | 15.5 but | < 16.5 | 3,700 |
| | 14.5 but | < 15.5 | 4,500 |
| | 13.5 but | < 14.5 | 5,400 |
| | 12.5 but | < 13.5 | 6,400 |
| | less than | 12.5 | 7,700 |

* Combined unadjusted model type fuel economy

Limousine Manufacturers

Under the Revenue Consolidation Act of 1991, Limousine manufacturers and modifiers are covered by the gas guzzler program. Manufacturers of such vehicles should obtain fuel economy labels for their vehicles and conversions.

ENCLOSURE 2

Additional Instructions for Submitting Fuel Economy Information to EPA for the 2001 Fuel Economy Guide

1. Background Information

The Fuel Economy Guide will contain separate sections for vehicles which can be operated on the following fuels:

- Gasoline
- Diesel fuel
- Ethanol (E85)
- Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)
- Electricity
- Hybrid vehicles
- Other Fuels

For dual-fueled vehicles, the gasoline mpg values for the vehicle will be listed in both the Gasoline section of the Guide and the appropriate alternative-fuel section of the Guide.

2. Subdividing "Special Purpose Vehicles" into Minivans and SUVs

The 2001 Fuel Economy Guide will subdivide the Special Purpose Vehicle class into the following sub-categories:

- Special Purpose Vehicle - Minivan - 2WD;
- Special Purpose Vehicle - Minivan - 4WD;
- Special Purpose Vehicle - Sport Utility Vehicle - 2WD; and
- Special Purpose Vehicle - Sport Utility Vehicle - 4WD.

Manufacturers should subdivide their Special Purpose Vehicles into Minivans and Sport Utility Vehicles(SUVs) by entering the appropriate carline class code into the carline program of the EPA data base (column 21-22 of the C1 record). In some cases, we may ask manufacturers to justify why the vehicles should be classified in these categories. With EPA approval, a vehicle may continue to be listed in the Guide as a "Special Purpose Vehicle" if it does not seem to fit into one of these subcategories. This situation is expected to be rare, but may occasionally happen for some types of camper vans, dune buggies, amphibious vehicles, or other special vehicles.

These new subcategories of "Special Purpose Vehicles" will be used in the Guide only, and should not be used on the fuel economy label (window sticker) required by the provisions of 40 CFR 600.306-86. As in previous years, the fuel economy labels for most Minivans and

SUVs should identify these vehicles as "Special Purpose Vehicles." Similarly, EPA will provide fuel economy ranges of comparable vehicles for "Special Purpose Vehicles" only, and not for any of the subcategories.

3. Guidance for Listing Vehicles equipped with Semi-Automatic Transmissions in the Guide.

If you are planning to incorporate any semi-automatic transmissions¹ or automatic variable gear ratio transmissions (continuously variable transmissions) in your product plans, when filling out the general label information in the CFEIS Manufacturers Users Guide (CMUG), please mark them with the appropriate code as shown in the General Label input data record below. However, for the Vehicle Information input record (V5 record, column 52-53) the transmission code should indicate how the vehicle is actually tested, i.e. in the automatic or manual mode.

¹ A semi-automatic transmission is a transmission which can easily be shifted in either the automatic or manual mode. For example, some semi-automatic vehicles can be shifted by (+/-) buttons located on the steering wheel; a stalk or paddles located on the steering column; or by placing the floor mounted shift lever in a special (+/-) position which transforms the gear lever into a toggle switch that is designed to perform up shifts and downshifts manually.

| Field Name | R e c o r d T y p e | A d d | R e p l a c e | D e p l e t e | R e p r o c e s s | P o s i t i o n | L e n g t h | D a t a T y p e | Valid Range/Entry Criteria |
|----------------------|--|-------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Transmission Type | G2 | R | R | | | 7-8 | 2 | A | AV - Automatic Variable Gear Ratios A3 - No Lockup/Automatic/3-speed A4 - No Lockup/Automatic/4-speed A5 - No Lockup/Automatic/5-speed A6 - No Lockup/Automatic/6-speed B3 - Both C4 & M3 B4 - Both C5 & M4 C4 - Creeper/Manual 4-speed C5 - Creeper/Manual 5-speed L3 - Lockup/Automatic/3-speed L4 - Lockup/Automatic/4-speed L5 - Lockup/Automatic/5-speed M3 - Manual 3-speed M4 - No Creeper/Manual 4-speed M5 - Manual 5-speed M6 - Manual 6-speed S2 - Semi-Automatic 2-speed S3 - Semi-Automatic 3-speed S4 - Semi-Automatic 4-speed S5 - Semi-Automatic 5-speed S6 - Semi-Automatic 6-speed |

4. Guidance for Listing Alternative-Fueled Vehicles in the Guide

The Fuel Economy Guide will include separate sections for new alternative-fueled vehicles, including CNG vehicles, ethanol vehicles and other types of alternative-fueled vehicles. If manufacturers have not already done so, they may enter the fuel economy label values of these alternative-fueled vehicles into the EPA computer data base or provide the values to EPA in writing to the attention of their EPA certification team member.

For dual-fueled vehicles, manufacturers should provide fuel economy (mpg) values when the vehicle is operated on both fuels. For example, manufacturers should provide both gasoline and ethanol (E85) mpg values for flexible-fueled ethanol vehicles.

Manufacturers should provide the driving range of dedicated alternative-fueled vehicles (rounded to the nearest 10 miles). For dual-fueled vehicles, manufacturers should provide the driving range of the vehicle when operated on gasoline or diesel fuel and the driving range when operated on the alternative fuel.

The driving range should be based on the adjusted combined fuel economy value as determined in 40 CFR 600.209-95(d) and the nominal fuel tank capacity of the vehicle (rounded to the nearest tenth of a gallon). If several fuel tank capacities are available for a vehicle, manufacturers should provide the driving range and the fuel tank capacity for all available fuel tank capacities for the vehicle.

For CNG vehicles, manufacturers should provide the city and highway fuel economy values in miles per gallon-equivalent, where one gallon-equivalent is equal to 121.5 cubic feet of CNG. The CNG fuel tank capacity used to calculate the driving range should be based on 80 percent of the nominal fuel tank capacity (using a slow fill rate) in order to account for the reduced fuel tank capacity which results from a fast fill rate.

Manufacturers who would like to include their alternative-fueled vehicles in the Guide should provide the necessary fuel economy information, driving range information, and a description of the vehicles to EPA in writing to the attention of their EPA certification team member.

5. Guidance for Listing Electric Vehicles in the Guide

The Fuel Economy Guide will include a separate section for new electric vehicles. If manufacturers have not already done so, they should provide a list of electric vehicles which will be introduced into commerce in the next year, and which manufacturers would like

to have listed in the Guide. Manufacturers should provide a description of the vehicles to EPA in writing to the attention of their EPA certification team member, including the city and highway energy consumption (in kW-hr per 100 miles); and the range of the vehicles (in miles). The energy consumption and the range should be calculated using the procedures contained in Society of Automotive Engineers procedure J1634. Please submit the information in the format shown in the example below:

| Carline Name | Type of Battery | Motor Size/ Type | Energy Consumption (kW-hr/100mi) | | Range (miles) | Veh.Class, Body Type, Pass/Cargo Volume |
|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|--|-----|------------------|--|
| | | | City | Hwy | | |
| AB Elect | Lead-Acid | 95 kW AC Induction | 40 | 50 | 100 | 4dr-113/13 Large Cars |
| AB Elect | Nickel-Metal Hydride | 45 kW AC Induction | 45 | 45 | 150 | 4dr-113/13 Large Cars |
| CD Elect | Lithium-Ion | 62 kW DC | 50 | 50 | 100 | 2dr-85/11 Subcompact |

Additional information may also be included if necessary to describe your vehicles.

ENCLOSURE 3

Timetable

This enclosure is the timetable for including data in the 2001 Fuel Economy Guide and for the calculation and release of updated fuel economy ranges:

Fuel Economy Guide

| <u>Task</u> | <u>Significant Dates</u> | <u>Responsibility</u> |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Complete emission certification requirements for all model types to be included in the <u>Guide</u> . | August 21 | Manufacturer |
| 2. Notify EPA of self-approval of all general label fuel economy values, for all model types to be included in the <u>Guide</u> . | August 21 | Manufacturer |
| 3. Compile a list (for each manufacturer) of descriptions, fuel economy values, etc., of all model types to be included in the <u>Guide</u> and transmit to manufacturers for their review. | August 21 | EPA |
| 4. Complete review of all information provided in "3" above and notify EPA of necessary corrections or concurrence. | August 25 | Manufacturer |

Fuel Economy Ranges

| | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Release to manufacturers the fuel economy ranges to be used on fuel economy labels. | September 1 | EPA |
| 2. Ranges required to be included on labels as of this date. | September 17 | Manufacturer |

EPA will try to include all available information in the Guide, which is submitted to EPA prior to August 31, 2000. August 31, 2000 is the last day for manufacturers to make changes to the EPA computer data base or to submit written fuel economy information to EPA for alternative-fueled vehicles and electric vehicles. EPA will convey the necessary information to DOE on August 31, 2000 close of business.